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Watch Committee

Watch Report

Top Secret 25X1 10 October 1974

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COMBINED WATCH REPORT of the UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

No. 1259

10 October 1974 (As of 1030 EDT)

The Committee concludes that there will be no military attack on the United States or its overseas forces in the near future. Subjects of immediate concern are discussed below.

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I. Middle East

We continue to believe that an outbreak of major Arab-Israeli hostilities is unlikely in the near term. Although both sides are currently demonstrating a willingness to explore political options to achieve territorial agreement, the risk of renewed fighting will substantially increase unless diplomatic efforts show progress toward a negotiated settlement.

Baghdad appears determined to press its pre-winter offensive to achieve a military solution to the Kurdish problem. If Tehran continues its support to the Kurds, we expect further localized clashes between Iranian and Iraqi forces. These could quickly increase in scope and intensity, and thus there remains a risk of a major Iraqi-Iranian border conflict.

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II. USSR-Eastern Europe

We see no indications of hostile intent in the military activity of the USSR and other Warsaw Pact nations.

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III. Southeast Asia

In South Vietnam, we expect sharp fighting to continue in Military Region 1 for the near term.

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